

## **FISCAL NOTE**

### **HB 1286 - SB 1804**

May 7, 2001

#### **SUMMARY OF BILL:**

- Requires the Tennessee Regulatory Authority to create a plan for facilitating access to information tools and educational technology, with the assistance of private industry and governmental entities, by May 15, 2001.
- Requires the plan to serve as the basis for a program under which the Tennessee Regulatory Authority would be authorized to organize voluntary collaboration between private industry and government whereby goods and services could be contributed and used. Requires the Tennessee Regulatory Authority to create eligibility requirements for underserved school-age children, after consulting with the Department of Education, and the Department of Human Services and any other appropriate state agency. Requires that the selection of eligible candidates will be equally distributed between urban and rural areas; and during the pilot phase of the program, the selection of eligible candidates will be equally distributed among the grand divisions.
- Authorizes the Tennessee Regulatory Authority to promulgate appropriate rules necessary for the establishment and operation of this program.
- Requires the Tennessee Regulatory Authority and the Department of Education to submit a joint report on the performance of the pilot phase of the program to the Speaker of the Senate and the House of Representatives and the Governor no later than January 15, 2004. Such report shall contain a recommendation on whether to continue and/or expand the program.
- Authorizes the Tennessee Regulatory Authority to receive and disperse contributions made pursuant to this legislation.

#### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

##### **Increase State Expenditures - Not Significant**

Assumes the requirements of the bill can be accomplished utilizing existing staff and resources.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director